Applicant: Max Maier

Application No.: 10/019,106

As explained in the Remarks of that prior Preliminary Amendment, the purpose of

that claim cancellation was to eliminate all multiply dependent claims. At that time, an

English-language translation was not yet available, so that a more commonly used method

for eliminating such multiple dependencies could not be employed.

That English-language translation is now available, and in fact is being co-filed with

this Second Preliminary Amendment.

The present, Second Preliminary Amendment restores claims 3 - 28 (in English) but

without any multiple dependencies.

Thus, there is being achieved the "end result" which was described starting on line

3 on page 3 of the prior Preliminary Amendment, namely an application with no multiply

dependent claims.

As also pointed out in the Remarks of that prior Preliminary Amendment, the filing

fee which was paid when this Section 371 application was originally filed, was already

based on a total of 28 claims, but without any multiply dependent claims, and so was the fee

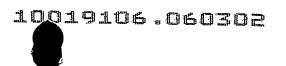
payment which accompanied the filing of that application.

In view of all the above, it is requested that this application be examined on the basis

of English-language claims 1 - 28.

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Respectfully submitted,

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AS/dk